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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part II)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (a) was considered at the 29th to 31st, 34th and 35th meetings, on 23 and 29 November and on 1 and 13 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.29-31, 34 and 35).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade" (A/C.2/49/L.31).

3. At the 31st meeting on 1 December, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31 (see A/C.2/49/SR.31).

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.32 and L.65

5. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/49/L.32), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 1/ 46/156 of 19 December 1991 on the implementation of the Programme of Action and 47/173 of 22 December 1992 on the implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

"Recalling also its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and its resolution 45/206, on the implementation of the Programme of Action, to be held in the early part of September 1995 or any other suitable date during the second half of 1995,

"Taking note of the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 4 October 1994, in pursuance of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting held at Dhaka in February 1990, 2/

"Recalling further that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and to set them on the path of sustained growth and development,

"Expressing serious concern about the continued deterioration of the economic and social situation of the least developed countries,

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1/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

2/ A/49/506, annex.

"Deeply concerned about the limited progress achieved so far in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

"Recognizing that the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action is of particular significance as it will provide an opportunity to the international community to set out new and corrective policies and measures, in particular substantially strengthened external support to the least developed countries in all areas, so as to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the 1990s,

"Stressing the importance of timely and adequate preparations for the mid-term global review,

"Emphasizing that adequate resources should be provided to ensure full and effective participation of the least developed countries in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,

"Recalling decision 412 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action, 3/

"Taking note of agreed conclusions 413 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the 1990s, 3/ which was underpinned, inter alia, by The Least Developed Countries 1993-1994 Report, 4/

"1. Reaffirms the commitment of the international community to the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, and calls upon all Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to implement fully and effectively the Programme of Action in all areas as a matter of priority;

"2. Calls upon the donor countries to fulfil their aid commitments as contained in the Programme of Action on a priority basis and adjust them upwardly to reflect fully the additional resource requirements of the least developed countries, including those added to the list of least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I, chap. II, sect. A.

4/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.D.4.

"3. Decides:

"(a) To convene the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s in New York from 26 September to 6 October 1995, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 25 September 1995. In the event that any Member State offers to host this Meeting, the Trade and Development Board, at its spring session in 1995, would accordingly accede to that offer. The Meeting shall carry out the mid-term global review, consider new measures as necessary, and report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"(b) To convene one session of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries in early 1995 at Geneva, for the duration of one week, in order to prepare for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

"(c) To organize regional follow-up meetings by the relevant United Nations regional commissions, in close coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to improve and strengthen existing cooperation arrangements at the regional and subregional levels and provide appropriate inputs to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

"(d) To invite the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to undertake sectoral appraisals in their respective fields on the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"(e) To request that an inter-agency meeting be convened in early 1995 to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as part of the preparations for the mid-term global review;

"4. Decides also to defray the cost of participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and one representative from each least developed country to attend the Meeting referred to in paragraph 3 (b) above through reallocation of existing resources of the regular budget, if necessary. Extrabudgetary resources should be explored for this purpose;

"5. Welcomes the steps initiated by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene preparatory expert group meetings and urges donors to provide adequate extrabudgetary resources for that purpose, including for the preparation of substantive documentation;

"6. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 46/156, to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to ensure the participation of at least one representative from each least developed country at the spring session of the Trade and Development Board, as well as adequate

participation of least developed countries at the preparatory, expert and sectoral meetings for the mid-term global review process;

"7. Urges all countries, as well as multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, to take the necessary steps to ensure appropriate preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

"8. Requests all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit reports containing a review of the implementation of the Programme of Action within their fields of competence, with special emphasis on areas where commitments have remained unfulfilled, and proposals for new measures as necessary, as further inputs to the preparation for the mid-term global review;

"9. Invites the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, with a view to ensuring that the Division for the Least Developed Countries in the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has adequate resources and capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term global review, to carry out its country-level work more fully and to follow up the conclusions and recommendations relating to the least developed countries adopted by major United Nations conferences;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. A statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.32 submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, was contained in document A/C.2/49/L.55.

7. At the 34th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.65), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.32, and orally revised operative paragraph 5 by replacing the words "and for financing" with the words "including for financing".

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.65, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.65, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.32 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.34 and L.72

10. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group

of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International trade and development" (A/C.2/49/L.34), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 5/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 6/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 7/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 8/ the Cartagena Commitment, 9/ Agenda 21, 10/ and the various agreements that provide an overall policy framework for sustained economic growth and development in order to address the challenges of the 1990s,

"Recalling its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended, 11/ on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly, 47/183 of 22 December 1992 on the eighth session of the Conference and 48/55 of 10 December 1993 on international trade and development,

"Noting the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular its contribution, within its mandate, to trade and development,

"Emphasizing the importance of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system,

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5/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

6/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

7/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

8/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

9/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

10/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (vol. I and vol. I/Corr.1, vol. II, vol. III and vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

11/ See resolutions 2904 (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

"Also emphasizing that a favourable international economic environment, in particular a conducive and stable international financial system, is necessary for the economic recovery and growth of the world economy, in particular for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries,

"Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee at Marrakesh, Morocco, on 15 April 1994, and noting that the Uruguay Round agreements 12/ have the potential to contribute to the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

"Recognizing that the developing countries have made a major contribution to the success of the Uruguay Round, in particular by accepting the challenges of trade liberalization reforms and measures,

"Also recognizing that open subregional and regional economic integration processes among developing countries have the potential to impart substantial dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for all countries,

"Expressing concern about the possible adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements on the least developed countries and the net food-importing developing countries,

"Also expressing concern about the possible adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements on African countries, island developing countries, countries heavily dependent on primary commodity exports and countries heavily dependent on trade preferences,

"Stressing that access to and transfer of technology, including environmentally sound technology, on preferential and concessional terms will have a positive impact on the competitiveness of developing countries,

"1. Takes note of the reports of the Trade and Development Board on the second part and resumed second part of its fortieth session 13/ and the first part of its forty-first session 14/ and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to implement the outcome of those sessions;

"2. Emphasizes the importance of follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the policies and measures contained in the Cartagena Commitment, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and

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12/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol.1.

13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I.

14/ A/49/15 (vol. II).

Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992;

"3. Notes that the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations provides for special and preferential treatment for developing countries;

"4. Stresses the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and urges all countries, in particular developed countries, to submit the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization to their respective competent authorities for consideration, with a view to seeking prompt approval of the Agreement, in accordance with their national procedures, with a view to its entry into force by 1 January 1995, or as early as possible thereafter;

"5. Stresses also the urgent need for trade liberalization and improved access to the markets of all countries, in particular those of the developed countries, in order to generate global economic growth and sustainable development for the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

"6. Emphasizes the need for continued evaluation of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements to ensure increased market access and expansion of world trade for all countries, in particular the developing countries;

"7. Deplores any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed measures of trade liberalization, through resort to unilateral actions, over and above those agreed to in the Uruguay Round, and deplores the use of environmental and social concerns for protectionist purposes;

"8. Emphasizes the importance of giving special attention to the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing their full participation in the multilateral trading system, and emphasizes the importance of commitments pertaining to special and differential measures to mitigate any adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round;

"9. Emphasizes also that African countries should benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round, and stresses the need for technical assistance for African countries to enable them, inter alia, to evaluate the impact of the implementation of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, to enable them to identify measures to be taken to mitigate possible adverse effects of the agreements and to facilitate their access to the markets of developed countries;

"10. Strongly urges preference-giving countries to improve their preferential schemes and invites the 1995 Policy Review on the Generalized System of Preferences to recommend concrete actions with a view to offsetting the possible erosion of preference in favour of the concerned developing countries;

"11. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the appropriate focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment, services and sustainable development, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its special role in the field of trade and environment, including policy analysis, conceptual work and consensus-building, with a view to ensuring transparency and coherency in making environmental and trade policies mutually supportive, taking into account the work done by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other competent and regional economic institutions;

"12. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to focus and intensify its technical assistance in the light of the Uruguay Round agreements, with the aim of increasing the capacities of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, African countries and island developing countries, so that they may participate effectively in the international trading system;

"13. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to make proposals for translating the Marrakesh ministerial commitments regarding the least developed countries and net food-importing countries into concrete action."

11. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as by the observer for the European Community (see A/C.2/49/SR.29).

12. At the 35th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.72), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.72 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution III).

14. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Ukraine made a statement (see A/C.2/49/SR.35).

15. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/72, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.36 and L.68

16. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Specific measures in favour of island developing countries" (A/C.2/49/L.36), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 45/202 of 21 December 1990 and 47/186 of 22 December 1992 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

"Recognizing that, in addition to the general problems facing developing countries, many island developing countries experience specific trade and financing-related handicaps arising from their smallness, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, constraints on transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, weak indigenous technological capacity, the acute problem of obtaining fresh water supplies, heavy dependence on imports and small number of commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources, migration, particularly of personnel with high-level skills, shortages of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

"Recognizing also that many of these factors occur concurrently in island developing countries, resulting in economic and social vulnerability and dependence, particularly in those countries that are small and/or geographically dispersed,

"Noting that many island developing countries are least developed countries,

"Mindful of the fact that in the 1990s island developing countries, particularly the small island developing countries that have extremely open and volatile economies, are facing an international economic environment that may strongly affect their ability to achieve sustainable development,

"Concerned about the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise on island developing countries,

"Reaffirming the importance of Agenda 21, which was adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and the commitments made therein, particularly in chapter 17, section G, relating to the sustainable development of small island developing States, 15/

"Stressing the importance of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States which was

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15/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994 and the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference, 16/

"Taking note of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, held in Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994 and the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World, 17/

"1. Reaffirms its resolutions 45/202 and 47/186 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and calls for their immediate, effective implementation;

"2. Expresses its appreciation to States, organizations and bodies, within and outside the United Nations system, that have responded to the special needs of island developing countries;

"3. Welcomes the Programme of Action adopted at the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; 16/

"4. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on a development strategy for island developing countries; 18/

"5. Welcomes the efforts made by island developing countries to adopt policies that address their specific trade and financing-related problems, including efforts at regional cooperation and integration, and calls upon those countries to continue to pursue, in accordance with their national objectives, policies and priorities, further measures to increase their international competitiveness, render their economies less vulnerable by developing the capacity to respond to shocks due to natural disasters and external economic changes, and promote sustainable development;

"6. Appeals to the international community:

"(a) To maintain and, where possible, increase the level of concessional financial and technical assistance provided to island developing countries;

"(b) To optimize access of island developing countries to concessional financial and technical assistance by taking into account, inter alia, the

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16/ Report of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 26 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9 and Corr.1 and 2) (United Nations publication, Sales No. 94.I.18), chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

17/ "Report of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, 23-27 May 1994" (A/CONF.172/9 and Add.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

18/ A/49/227 and Add.1 and 2.

specific development needs and problems with which those countries must contend;

"(c) To consider reviewing the mechanisms of existing procedures used in providing concessional resources to island developing countries, taking into account their situation and development potential;

"(d) To ensure that assistance conforms to the national and, as appropriate, regional priorities of island developing countries;

"(e) To assist those countries to derive maximum benefits from the agreements of the Uruguay Round, to consider improving trade and/or other existing arrangements for assisting them in redressing possible adverse effects of the Uruguay Round on their external trade and to consider wider adoption of such arrangements;

"(f) To continue to ensure that a concerted effort is made to assist island developing countries, at their request, in improving their institutional and administrative capacities and in satisfying their overall needs with regard to the development of human resources;

"(g) To provide technical assistance aimed at the development of diversified exports including "niche" goods and services;

"(h) To provide support to island developing countries to strengthen their national and regional capabilities in the management, exploitation and surveillance of their exclusive economic zones;

"(i) To give high priority to investment and technical assistance projects aimed at improving the quality, efficiency and safety of transport services and infrastructure and the quality and coverage of telecommunications systems;

"(j) To provide assistance, where appropriate, to island developing countries to mitigate the consequences of climate change and sea-level rise;

"(k) To continue providing assistance, where appropriate to island developing States in their preparedness for response to/and mitigation of natural disasters, bearing in mind their special vulnerability;

"7. Invites island developing countries to intensify further their regional and subregional cooperative arrangements and, in particular, to address the problem of high-cost economies, by developing, where appropriate, common services to reduce the high per capita costs of infrastructure and public services and by developing regional transport and communications systems;

"8. Urges once again relevant organizations of the United Nations system to take adequate measures to respond positively to the particular needs of island developing countries and continue to report on such

measures through the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as appropriate;

"9. Urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its role, within its mandate, as the focal point for specific action at the global level in favour of island developing countries in the international economic cooperation context, and to act as a catalyst in this regard, inter alia, by continuing its technical assistance to the island developing countries as regards the implementation of the Final Act on the trade and development prospects of these countries, and organizing and facilitating cross-regional interchange of information and experiences, in full cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, as appropriate;

"10. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat to convene a meeting of governmental experts of island developing countries, donor countries and development and trade related institutions in 1996 in New York to review the implementation of specific trade and financial-related measures being undertaken at the national, subregional and international levels to address the specific problems and needs of island developing countries in those areas;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the fifty-first session on the outcome of the follow-up of the meeting referred to in paragraph 10 above."

17. At the 34th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.68) which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.36, and orally revised it as follows: in operative paragraph 6, the words "request set forth in [A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1] that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development be ensured of a strengthened capacity" were replaced with the words "provision made in [A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1] for strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development".

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.68, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution IV).

19. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.68, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.36 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

E. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.38 and L.73

20. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of the United States of America, subsequently joined by Morocco, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency" (A/C.2/49/L.38), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the document entitled "A New Partnership for Development: the Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session in which, inter alia, was launched the concept of trade efficiency and the process leading to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency,

"Recalling further General Assembly resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992, entitled "Eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development", in which the Assembly endorsed the convening of a United Nations international symposium on trade efficiency,

"Considering that the outcome of the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency is a concrete and practical contribution to the development objectives and efforts of the United Nations,

"Stressing the importance of trade as a major instrument of economic growth and sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries and the need to find solutions to microeconomic issues of international trade which can significantly contribute to more open, dynamic and efficient trade relations,

"Conscious of the significant importance information technology will have in the coming years in enhancing the competitiveness of countries and enterprises through the use of electronic trade,

"Noting the valuable contribution made by various organizations from within and outside the United Nations system to the successful conclusion of the Symposium,

"Reaffirming the need to give priority attention to the problems facing the least developed countries,

"1. Expresses its deep gratitude to the city of Columbus, Ohio, United States of America, for hosting the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, for the hospitality extended to the participants and for the facilities made available to the Symposium;

"2. Welcomes the adoption of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency, embodying a policy framework and a set of practical actions and recommendations for more efficient trade worldwide, which can generate substantial benefits to all countries;

"3. Welcomes further the official launching of the Global Trade Point Network, which, by electronically interconnecting trade points worldwide, would allow all member countries to trade more efficiently with each other and assist those that have so far remained at the fringe of international trade to participate actively and profitably in it, in particular the least developed countries and small and medium-sized enterprises in all countries;

"4. Expresses its satisfaction with the high-level participation in the Symposium, with the innovative procedures introduced for making the proceedings of the Symposium more dynamic and action-oriented, including better interaction among the governmental and non-governmental participants, and with the genuine efforts made to achieve a paperless conference, in line with the objective of trade efficiency;

"5. Invites all States to take an active part in the implementation of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency and stresses the importance of the private sector and the close cooperation between it and national and local government authorities;

"6. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for organizing the Symposium, which recognized the importance of market forces and trade liberalization to achieve economic development, fostered increased cooperation among developed and developing countries, and encouraged an open exchange of views on practical, market-oriented solutions to real problems of economic development with all the actors on trade, both public and private;

"7. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its efforts to promote the use of the global marketplace to support development and the implementation of the provisions of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration, in particular the establishment of trade points and their integration in the Global Trade Point Network, with the cooperation of the private sector and, as appropriate, the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, and donor Governments;

"8. Stresses the importance of an integrated effort within the United Nations system in the implementation of the concept of trade efficiency, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its close cooperation with relevant bodies and organizations so as to take full benefit of the synergies existing among them;

"9. Notes the interest of the Trade and Development Board in considering follow-up action to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, and expresses its interest in being apprised of developments in this respect in the context of its consideration of the item 'Trade and development'."

21. At the 35th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.73), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.73 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution V).

23. In the light of the adoption of the draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.73, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

F. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.43 and L.64

24. At the 30th meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Afghanistan, on behalf of Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey, subsequently joined by Pakistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Assistance to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours" (A/C.2/49/L.43), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 48/170 of 21 December 1993, in which it recognized the necessity of improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

"Recalling also its resolution 48/169 of 21 December 1993, entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries", and expecting that the newly independent land-locked States in Central Asia will participate in the activities and meetings referred to in that resolution,

"Recalling further the agreed conclusions and recommendations on priority areas and modalities for further action to improve transit systems in land-locked and transit developing countries of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, convened by the Trade and Development Board in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993, as set forth in the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts, 19/

"Recalling further in particular those paragraphs of the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts pertaining to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

"Noting that these countries are seeking to enter world markets and that such an objective requires the establishment of a multi-country transit system,

"Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of these countries,

"Recognizing also that most of the countries providing alternative transit routes are themselves developing countries facing serious economic

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19/ TD/B/40(1)/2-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/4.

problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

"Supporting the current efforts being undertaken bilaterally and multilaterally by the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours to address the issues of the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

"Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements by multilateral agreements, by regional and subregional cooperation and, in particular, the Economic Cooperation Organization, which the General Assembly, in its resolution 48/2, invited to participate in its sessions and work in the capacity of observer, in solving the transit problems in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on transit transport systems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours: current situation and proposals for future action, 20/

"Noting that this report, as stated in paragraph 1 of its introduction, represents a first approximation only towards a fuller elaboration of more concrete programmes of action for dealing with the issues,

"Recognizing that to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that both address the difficulties inhering in the use of existing transit routes and pave the way for the early development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes,

"Emphasizing the importance of strengthening international assistance for carrying out a comprehensive and full-scale analysis of the transport and transit problems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours in order to make concrete recommendations, establish priorities and seek support for implementation action needed to improve the transport and transit situation in these countries,

"1. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Cooperation Organization, and with other relevant regional organizations, to elaborate a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours and to make a comprehensive analysis of the

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20/ A/49/277.

transit system for Central Asian countries, paying particular attention to the development of all new, appropriate and feasible alternative transit routes and corridors, including the shortest ones, and to submit an interim progress report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

"2. Calls upon donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

"3. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, and the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Europe, to provide technical assistance to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours in such areas as the elaboration of adequate arrangements for payment systems for transit services, the improvement of physical transit infrastructure facilities and regional transport planning, the development and updating as appropriate of bilateral, regional and subregional transit facilitation agreements and arrangements, and the accession to relevant international conventions in the field of transport and transit;

"4. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe, and the Economic Cooperation Organization and with other relevant regional organizations, to hold a regional symposium for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours during the first half of 1996 to evaluate the progress of action on the recommendations contained in the present resolution and to agree on an appropriate follow-up programme of action;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session."

25. At the 34th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Transit environment in the land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours" (A/C.2/49/L.64), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.43, and orally revised in operative paragraph 1, by adding the words "and relevant regional organizations" after the words "Economic Commission for Europe".

26. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.64, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution VI).

27. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

28. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.64, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.43 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

29. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/201 of 21 December 1990, 46/207 of 20 December 1991, 47/184 of 22 December 1992 and 48/54 of 10 December 1993, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare reports on institutional developments, taking into account all relevant proposals related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade,

Welcoming the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular the positive results of the mid-term review of the work programme,

Welcoming also the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, on 15 April 1994, in particular the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, 21/

Taking note of the Declaration of the Trade and Development Board on the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 22/

21/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol. 1.

22/ A/49/15 (Vol. II), chap. I, sect. A, decision 416 (XLI).

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade, 23/

Recognizing that there should be constructive and effective cooperation between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization, based on their complementary functions,

1. Notes the ongoing exchange of views between the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on the issue of establishing a relationship between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization;

2. Urges all Governments, competent regional economic integration organizations and the executive heads of the competent specialized agencies and of other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to present their views to the Secretary-General on institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on further institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade and, in preparing that report, to solicit the views of all Governments, competent regional economic integration organizations and the executive heads of the competent specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system on institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 24/ 46/156 of 19 December 1991 on the implementation of the Programme of Action and 47/173 of 22 December 1992 on the implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

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23/ A/49/363.

24/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

Recalling also its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and its resolution 45/206, on the implementation of the Programme of Action, to be held in the early part of September 1995 or any other suitable date during the second half of 1995,

Taking note of the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 4 October 1994, in pursuance of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting held at Dhaka in February 1990, 25/

Recalling further that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and to set them on the path of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Expressing serious concern about the continued deterioration of the economic and social situation of the least developed countries as a whole,

Also expressing concern about the limited progress achieved so far in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action is of particular significance as it will provide an opportunity to the international community to set out new and corrective policies and measures, including strengthened external support to the least developed countries in all areas, to support their efforts so as to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the decade,

Stressing the importance of timely and adequate preparations for the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Also stressing that adequate resources should be provided to ensure the full and effective participation of the least developed countries in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,

Recalling decision 412 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action, 26/

25/ A/49/506, annex.

26/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I, chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note of agreed conclusions 413 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the 1990s, 26/ which was underpinned, inter alia, by The Least Developed Countries 1993-1994 Report, 27/

1. Reaffirms the commitment of the international community to the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, and calls upon all Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to implement fully and effectively the Programme of Action in all areas as a matter of priority;

2. Stresses that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities by the least developed countries for their economic growth and development, as well as strong and committed partnership between those countries and their development partners;

3. Calls upon the donor countries to fulfil their aid commitments as contained in the Programme of Action on a priority basis and to adjust them upwardly to reflect fully the additional resource requirements of the least developed countries, including those added to the list of least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

4. Decides:

(a) To convene the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s in New York from 26 September to 6 October 1995, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 25 September 1995. In the event that any Member State offers to host this Meeting, the Trade and Development Board, at its spring session in 1995, would accordingly consider that offer. The Meeting shall carry out the mid-term global review, consider new measures as necessary, and report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(b) To convene one session of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries in early 1995 at Geneva, for a duration of one week, in order to prepare for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

(c) To organize regional follow-up meetings by the relevant United Nations regional commissions, in close coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to improve and strengthen existing cooperation

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27/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.D.4.

arrangements at the regional and subregional levels and provide appropriate inputs to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

(d) To invite the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to undertake sectoral appraisals in their respective fields on the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(e) To request that an inter-agency meeting be convened in early 1995 to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as part of the preparations for the mid-term global review;

5. Also decides to defray the cost of participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting by the utilization of unexpended extrabudgetary funds from the voluntary trust fund established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and through the reallocation of existing resources of the regular budget, if necessary. Extrabudgetary resources should also be explored for this purpose, including for financing the cost of participation of one representative from each least developed country in the meeting referred to in paragraph 4 (b) above;

6. Welcomes the steps initiated by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene preparatory expert group meetings, and invites donors to provide adequate extrabudgetary resources for that purpose, including for the preparation of substantive documentation;

7. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 46/156, to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to ensure the participation of at least one representative from each least developed country at the spring session of the Trade and Development Board, as well as the adequate participation of least developed countries at the preparatory, expert and sectoral meetings for the mid-term global review process;

8. Urges all countries, as well as multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, to take the necessary steps to ensure appropriate preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

9. Requests all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit reports containing a review of the implementation of the Programme of Action within their fields of competence, with special emphasis on areas where commitments have remained unfulfilled, and proposals for new measures as necessary, as further inputs to the preparation for the mid-term global review;

10. Invites the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, with a view to ensuring that the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has sufficient capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term global review, and to follow up the conclusions and recommendations relating to the least developed countries adopted by major United Nations conferences;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 28/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 29/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 30/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 31/ the Cartagena Commitment, 32/ Agenda 21 33/ and the various agreements that provide an overall policy framework for sustained economic growth and sustainable development in order to address the challenges of the 1990s,

Recalling its resolutions 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended, 34/ on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly, 47/183 of 22 December 1992 on the eighth session of the Conference and 48/55 of 10 December 1993 on international trade and development,

Noting the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular its contribution, within its mandate, to trade and development,

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28/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

29/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

30/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

31/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

32/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

33/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (vol. I and vol. I/Corr.1, vol. II, vol. III and vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

34/ See resolutions 2904 (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

Emphasizing the importance of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system,

Also emphasizing that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic recovery and growth of the world economy, in particular for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, on 15 April 1994, and noting that the Uruguay Round agreements 35/ represent an historic achievement, which is expected to contribute to strengthening the world economy and to lead to more trade, investment, employment and income growth throughout the world and in particular to the promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in developing countries,

Noting that the Uruguay Round agreements represent a substantial liberalization of international trade, the strengthening of multilateral rules and disciplines to ensure more stability and predictability in trade relations, the establishing of rules and disciplines in new areas and the founding of a new institutional framework in the form of the World Trade Organization, with an integrated dispute settlement mechanism which should avoid unilateral actions against international trade rules,

Recognizing that the developing countries have made a major contribution to the success of the Uruguay Round, in particular by accepting the challenges of trade liberalization reforms and measures and stressing that there is a need for positive efforts designed to ensure that developing countries, and especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth in international trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development,

Also recognizing that subregional and regional economic integration processes, including those among developing countries, which have intensified in recent years, impart substantial dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for all countries, and stressing that in order to maintain the positive aspects of such integration arrangements and to assure the prevalence of their dynamic growth effects, Member States and groupings should strive to be outward oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system,

Expressing concern that during the reform programme leading to greater liberalization of trade in agriculture, least developed countries and net food importing developing countries may experience negative effects in terms of the availability of adequate supplies of basic foodstuffs from external sources on reasonable terms and conditions, including short-term difficulties in financing normal levels of commercial imports of basic foodstuffs, and stressing, in this context, the importance of establishing appropriate mechanisms, as provided in paragraph 3 of the decision on measures concerning the possible negative effects

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35/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol. 1.

of the reform programme on least developed and net food importing developing countries of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, 8/ and stressing also the need to keep under review the specific needs of the least developed countries and to continue to seek the adoption of positive measures that will facilitate the expansion of trading opportunities in favour of those countries,

Recognizing the importance of assisting, in particular, African countries and island developing countries so that they benefit fully from the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements,

Recognizing also that the full integration of countries with economies in transition into the multilateral trading system would have a positive impact on world trade and global economic growth and sustainable development, and stressing, in this context, the importance of promoting the trade of developing countries with economies in transition, as well as regional economic integration processes and cooperation among economies in transition and between them and developing countries,

Stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technology and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of the developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21,

Taking note with satisfaction of the decision on trade, environment and sustainable development adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its second session, 36/ and, in this context, recognizing in the spirit of a new global partnership for sustainable development the need for a balanced and integrated approach to environment, trade and development issues,

Recognizing the significance of the establishment in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of an ad hoc working group on trade, environment and development, encouraging the interaction of the Conference with other institutions with mandates in this area, in particular the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Trade and Development Board on the second part and resumed second part of its fortieth session 37/ and the first part of its forty-first session, 38/ and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to implement the outcome of those sessions;

36/ See Original Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15, paras. 25-38.

37/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I.

38/ A/49/15 (vol. II).

2. Emphasizes the importance of follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the policies and measures contained in the Cartagena Commitment, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992;

3. Stresses the urgent need for trade liberalization, including through substantial reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade and the elimination of discriminatory treatment in international trade relations, and improved access to the markets of all countries, in particular those of the developed countries, in order to generate global economic growth and sustainable development for the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

4. Stresses also the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the significance of the entering into force of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization by 1 January 1995;

5. Emphasizes the importance of the full implementation of the provisions contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, which confers special and differential treatment for developing countries, including giving special attention to the situation of the least developed countries;

6. Emphasizes also the need for continued evaluation of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements to ensure the expansion of world trade in order to promote sustained global economic growth and sustainable development;

7. Deplores any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed measures of trade liberalization, through resort to unilateral actions, over and above those agreed to in the Uruguay Round, and reaffirms that environmental and social concerns should not be used for protectionist purposes;

8. Recognizes that, in order to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, environment and trade policies should be made mutually supportive and, in this context, takes note with satisfaction of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee to establish a Committee on Trade and Environment;

9. Emphasizes the importance of giving special attention to the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing their full participation in the multilateral trading system, and emphasizes the importance of commitments pertaining to special and differential measures to mitigate any adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round;

10. Emphasizes also that African countries should benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round, and stresses the need for technical assistance for African countries to enable them, inter alia, to evaluate the impact of the implementation of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of

Multilateral Trade Negotiations, to enable them to identify adaptive measures to enhance their competitiveness and to facilitate their access to developed countries' markets;

11. Requests preference-giving countries to consider improvements in their preferential schemes and invites the 1995 Policy Review on the Generalized System of Preferences to examine possible adaptations to the Generalized System of Preferences, taking into account paragraphs 134 to 140 of the Cartagena Commitment;

12. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the appropriate focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment, services and sustainable development, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its role in the field of trade and environment, including policy analysis, conceptual work and consensus-building, with a view to ensuring transparency and coherency in making environmental and trade policies mutually supportive, taking into account the work done by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other competent and regional economic institutions;

13. Stresses the need for the full integration of the economies in transition, as well as other countries, into the world economy, in particular through improved market access for their exports, including through, in accordance with multilateral trade rules, the reduction and elimination of discriminatory tariff and non-tariff measures, and the further liberalization of their trade regimes, including vis-à-vis developing countries, and also stresses, in this context, the usefulness of studies and technical assistance provided by the United Nations system regarding trade and trade-related problems that the economies in transition are encountering in their integration into the multilateral trading system;

14. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to focus and intensify its technical assistance in the light of the Uruguay Round agreements, with the aim of increasing the capacities of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, African countries and island developing countries, so that they may participate effectively in the international trading system;

15. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to make proposals for translating the commitments made at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee regarding the least developed countries and net food-importing countries into concrete action.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Specific measures in favour of island developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/202 of 21 December 1990 and 47/186 of 22 December 1992 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Recognizing that, in addition to the general problems facing developing countries, many island developing countries experience specific trade- and financing-related handicaps and that many of these factors subsist concurrently in island developing countries, resulting in economic and social vulnerability and dependence, particularly in those countries that are small and/or geographically dispersed,

Mindful of the fact that in the 1990s, island developing countries, particularly the small island developing countries that have extremely open and volatile economies, are facing an international economic environment that may adversely affect their trading opportunities,

Stressing the need for support measures to enable the island developing countries to obtain maximum benefit from the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, 39/

Underscoring the importance of international cooperation to support policies and measures of island developing countries in the area of trade so as to complement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, 40/ adopted at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Noting that many island developing countries are least developed countries,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the States, organizations and bodies, within and outside the United Nations system, that have responded to the special needs of island developing countries;

2. Welcomes the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States 40/ and the Declaration of Barbados, 41/ adopted at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island

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39/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol. 1.

40/ Report of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9 and Corr.1 and 2) (United Nations publication, Sales No. 94.I.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

41/ Ibid., annex I.

Developing States, held at Bridgetown, Barbados, from 25 April to 6 May 1994 (hereinafter referred to as the Barbados Conference);

3. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on a development strategy for island developing countries; 42/

4. Welcomes the efforts made by island developing countries at national and regional levels to enhance their international competitiveness and to expand their trading opportunities;

5. Calls upon the international community to implement all the commitments achieved and the recommendations made at the Barbados Conference and to take the necessary action to give effective follow-up to the Programme of Action and, in relation to trade and development issues with respect to island developing countries, reiterates the appeals made in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 47/186;

6. Notes the valuable role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in support of island developing countries, as recalled in General Assembly resolution 47/186, and welcomes the provision made in [A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1] for strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out, in accordance with its mandate, research and analysis necessary to complement the work of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat;

7. Invites the Commission on Sustainable Development to convene, during its session in 1996, a high-level panel to discuss the challenges faced by island developing countries, particularly in the area of external trade, and to assist the Commission in its review of the implementation of the Programme of Action agreed at the Barbados Conference, and also invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to organize that panel in cooperation with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and review in a coordinated manner, inter alia, within the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the secretariats of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the concerns and needs of island developing countries;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and, in recognition of the complementarity between the follow-up to the Barbados Conference and ongoing island developing country programmes, further requests the Secretary-General to take measures to provide for integrated reporting on, and synergetic consideration of, these issues.

42/ A/49/227 and Add.1 and 2.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency

The General Assembly,

Recalling the document entitled "A New Partnership for Development: the Cartagena Commitment", 43/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, in which, inter alia, was launched the concept of trade efficiency and the process leading to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency,

Recalling further its resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992, entitled "Eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development", in which it endorsed the convening of a United Nations international symposium on trade efficiency,

Considering that the outcome of the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency held at Columbus, Ohio, United States of America, from 17 to 21 October 1994, is a concrete and practical contribution to the development objectives and efforts of the United Nations,

Stressing the importance of trade as a major instrument of economic growth and sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries and the need to find solutions to microeconomic issues of international trade, which can significantly contribute to more open, dynamic and efficient trade relations,

Conscious of the significant importance information technology and the application of efficient trading practices will have in the coming years in enhancing the competitiveness of countries and enterprises through the use of electronic trade,

Noting the valuable contribution made by various organizations from within and outside the United Nations system and in particular by Working Party IV of the Economic Commission for Europe to the successful conclusion of the Symposium,

Reaffirming the need to give priority attention to the problems facing the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and encouraging all developing countries to continue to be active participants in international trade affairs and to adopt proved and successful business methods and techniques,

1. Expresses its deep gratitude to the Government and the people of the United States of America, as well as to the city of Columbus, Ohio, for hosting the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, for the hospitality extended to the participants and for the facilities made available to the Symposium;

43/ TD/364.

2. Welcomes the adoption of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency, embodying a policy framework and a set of practical actions and recommendations for more efficient trade worldwide, which can generate substantial benefits to all countries;

3. Also welcomes the official launching of the Global Trade Point Network, which, by electronically interconnecting trade points worldwide, will allow all member countries to trade more efficiently with each other and assist those that have so far remained at the fringe of international trade to participate actively and profitably in it, in particular the least developed countries and small and medium-sized enterprises in all countries;

4. Expresses its satisfaction with the high-level participation in the Symposium, with the innovative procedures introduced for making the proceedings of the Symposium more dynamic and action-oriented, including better interaction among the governmental and non-governmental participants;

5. Invites all States to take an active part in the implementation of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency and stresses the importance of all actors, in particular private sector actors, and the close cooperation between private sector actors and national and local government authorities for purposes of such implementation;

6. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for organizing the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, which underscored the importance of market forces and trade liberalization to achieve economic development, demonstrated the necessity of combining policy and practice, fostered increased cooperation among developed countries, developing countries and economies in transition and encouraged an open exchange of views on practical, market-oriented solutions to problems of economic development with all the actors on trade, both public and private;

7. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its efforts to promote the use of the global marketplace to support development and the implementation of the provisions of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration, in particular the establishment of trade points and their integration in the Global Trade Point Network, based on open systems and internationally recognized standards which guarantee equality of access for all countries to the network of trade points, with the cooperation, as appropriate, of the private sector and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

8. Stresses the importance of an integrated effort within the United Nations system in the implementation of the concept of trade efficiency, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its efforts in the trade efficiency areas and to do so through close cooperation with relevant bodies and organizations so as to take full benefit of the synergies existing among them;

9. Notes the interest of the Trade and Development Board in considering follow-up action to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, and expresses its interest in being apprised of developments in this respect in the context of its consideration of the item "Trade and development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Transit environment in the land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/169 and 48/170 of 21 December 1993,

Recalling further the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, convened by the Trade and Development Board in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993, 44/ and in particular, the conclusions and recommendations of the above Meeting pertaining to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

Recognizing that the overall socio-economic development efforts of these countries, seeking to enter world markets through the establishment of a multicountry transit system, are impeded by a lack of territorial access to the sea as well as by remoteness and isolation from world markets,

Supporting the current efforts being undertaken by the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours through relevant multilateral, bilateral and regional arrangements to address the issues regarding the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Transit transport systems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours: current situation and proposals for future action", 45/

Noting that the report, as stated in paragraph 1 of its introduction, represents a first approximation only towards a fuller elaboration of more concrete programmes of action for dealing with the issues,

Recognizing that to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that address both the problems inhering in the use of existing transit routes and the early development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening international support measures to address further the problems of newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

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44/ TD/B/40(1)/2-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/4.

45/ A/49/277.

1. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in consultation with the Governments concerned and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and relevant regional organizations, and, in accordance with approved programme priorities and within existing financial resources, to elaborate a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours and to make a comprehensive analysis and study of the transit system for Central Asian countries, paying particular attention to the development of all new, appropriate and feasible alternative transit routes and corridors, including the shortest ones;

2. Invites donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, within their mandates, to provide newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance for the improvement of the transit environment for these countries;

3. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the relevant international and regional organizations referred to in the present resolution, to study the possibility of holding, within existing financial resources, a regional symposium for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, with the participation of other interested States, on transport and transit issues in the region, upon completion of the comprehensive analysis and study requested in paragraph 1 of the present resolution and before this issue is taken up by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.